THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement delivered on 14th August, 1989 in the case regarding nomination of officer employee directors on the Boards of public sector banks had observed that the nomination of the officer employee director should be made in such a way as to give maximum scope to the concerned employees to exercise their choice in the selection of their representatives. Nominations have been made in accordance with the aforesaid judgement of the Supreme Court of India.

आम चुनाव कराने पर होने वाले व्यय में वृद्धि

*489. **श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया:**

श्रीमती शबाना आज़मी:

क्या विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में आम चुनाव कराने पर होने वाले व्यय में निरंतर वृद्धि हो रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा गत पांच आम चुनावों में प्रत्येक चुनाव पर कितना-कितना व्यय किया गया; और

(ग) वर्ष 1998 के दौरान आम चुनाव कराने पर कितना व्यय किया गया तथा व्यय में वृद्धि होने के मुख्य कारण क्या हैं?

विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री एस० थम्बी दुरई): (क) जी, हां। तथापि, 1998 के साधारण निर्वाचनों पर अनंतिम व्यय न्यूनाधिक वही है जो 1996 के निर्वाचनों पर हुआ था।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा, गत पांच साधारण निर्वाचनों के दौरान, उपगत व्ययों के अंनतिम आंकड़े निम्नलिखित हैं:—

क्रम सं०	वर्ष	अनंतिम व्यय
1.	1984	81,51,34,000
2.	1989	154,22,00,000
3.	1991	359,10,24,679
4.	1996	597,34,41,000
5.	1998	525,22,16,000†

† महाराष्ट्र और आन्ध्र प्रदेश राज्य सरकारों से निर्वाचन व्यय संबंधी आंकड़े प्राप्त नहीं हुए हैं।

(ग) इस विभाग में उपलब्ध अनंतिम व्यय आंकड़ों के अनुसार, 525,22,16,000 रु० की राशि (महाराष्ट्र और आन्ध्र प्रदेश राज्य सरकारों की बाबत आंकड़ों को छोड़कर) 1998 के साधारण निर्वाचनों के संचालन पर व्यय की गई थी। पिछले वर्षों से निर्वाचन व्यय की लागत में वृद्धि के कारण रहे हैं, साधारण कीमत वृद्धि, निर्वाचन लड़ने वालों और मतदाताओं की संख्या में महत्वपूर्ण वृद्धि जिसके फलस्वरूप मत पेटियों, मतदान केन्द्रों और अन्य निर्वाचन सामग्रियों पर किए जाने वाले व्यय में वृद्धि हुई है। तथापि, 1996 के साधारण निर्वाचनों की तुलना में 1998 के साधारण निर्वाचनों पर हुए व्यय में कोई महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है।

Assistance from International Financial Agencies to NHAI

*490. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of loans and finances made available from international financial agencies to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) whether National Highways Authority of India is making use of such funds;

(c) whether it is a fact that modern and people-friendly designs for road development have not been adopted by NHAI; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that NHAI uses latest design for road development in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) National Highways Authority

of India are making use of loans and grants made available to them from International Financial Agencies as detailed below.

International Financial Agency	Quantum of Loan
World Bank	Loan — US$ 8 million (approx.) Grant — US$ 2 million
Asian Development Bank	Loan — US$ 245 million
Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (Japan)	Loan — Yen 32,060 million

(c) and (d) All projects being executed by NHAI are designed on latest modern methods in accordance with Codes of Practice of Indian Roads Congress and guidelines, and specification, as applicable for National Highway Works. Provisions exist for road safety and way-side amenities in all projects including those in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Removal of D.G. Doordarshan

*491. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CEO, Prasar Bharati Board removed the services of D.G. Doordarshan without any notice;

(b) if so, whether the Prasar Bharati Board was consulted before his removal; and

(c) if not, under what circumstances the D.G. Doordarshan was removed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The arrangement of holding additional charge of the post of Director-General Doordarshan by a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting was discontinued with effect from 31st January, 1998 (AN), the date upto which the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet had approved the arrangement in November, 1997. Thereafter, with the setting up of Prasar Bharati Corporation with effect from 23.11.1997, it was decided that the post would henceforth be filled up by the Corporation.

Records in Air Eaten by Termites

*492. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether atleast 13,000 records of "Sehgal", "Talat" and "Naushad" songs, ghazals and other classical renderings of timeless and everlasting value in AIR custody have been spoiled or eaten away by termites;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to salvage the same from being totally lost to posterity and transcribing the HMV and Columbia records into modern recording systems of tapes and LP-discs; and

(c) the details of the loss suffered and the stuff salvaged?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir. Recordings of Sehgal, Talat and Naushad available with All India Radio are maintained properly and they have neither been spoiled nor eaten away by termite.

(b) All India Radio does not have copyright to dub old recordings including HMV and Columbia on modern systems. However, under special agreement, these companies have allowed All India Radio